

alternative, when cell-action is abnormal. In some disorders of the skin the blood supply and sensation are deficient, and in these, electricity is beneficial, by notably increasing both. Not only are motor and sensory nerves stimulated, but the trophic and vaso-motor fibres have their functions likewise increased, so that in atrophic affections and disorders of the sensation, paræsthesia, etc., electricity is often of advantage. Static electricity is beneficial in many nervous affections of the skin, and the psychological effect of the sparks probably contributes to the curative action.

Paræsthesia is frequently relieved by it, especially where it is a symptom of senile or other changes in the skin. Neuralgia of the scalp, soles of feet, and other parts of the body are sometimes benefitted by it.

Corns, warts and other hypertrophic developments of the skin are often removed by the daily applications; while a similar result follows in cases of the tendency to repeated eruptions of blind boils, acne marks and sluggish lymphatic glands.

Faradic electricity is useful for about the same class of cases as static electricity. In acne lesions, papular and chronic eczema, psoriasis, etc., faradism often relieves the itching and redness and reduces the infiltration that may be present. Mild currents are needed, and if there is liver or stomach disorder, the positive pole is to be placed over the affected organ and the negative applied to the lesions upon the skin.

Galvanism is required for thorough epilation, and is unequalled as a stimulant in alopecia, if the hair-bulbs are still living. Antiparasitic applications are more efficient when applied by the electrodes and a moderately strong current employed to drive them into the skin. In chronic ulcers of the leg good results may be obtained by driving in weak solutions of corrosive sublimate in this way. Discolorations of the skin, freckles, chloasma, acne and birth-marks are generally amenable to galvanic treatment, combined in the latter affection with galvanopuncture if necessary.

NEW BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED AND NOTED.

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